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ABSTRACT

This document sets forth certification requirements for prospective teachers in South Carolina. Areas covered include: (1) persons required to hold a teaching credential; (2) requirements for certification; (3) acceptable credit; (4) required examinations; (5) student teaching; (6) accredited teacher education programs; (7) application procedures; (8) credential classification; (9) additional areas of certification; (10) renewal of credentials; (11) foreign credentials; (12) prior work experiences; and (13) denial, revocation, suspension, and invalidation of credentials. (JD)

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REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

PART ONE—CERTIFICATION REGULATIONS

These certification policies and regulations replace all such policies and regulations approved before this publication, except as indicated.

SP 026934

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I. PERSONS REQUIRED TO HOLD A TEACHING CREDENTIAL

Each individual employed in an instructional, classroom teaching position or who serves in a position designed for the support of the instructional program in a public school of this state must hold an appropriate South Carolina teaching credential.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

The applicant must meet all requirements for certification that are in effect on the date of receipt by the Office of Teacher Education and Certification of all required documentation. The responsibility for providing accurate and complete documentation of eligibility is that of the applicant.

Citizenship. A person must be a citizen of the United States. Non-citizens may establish eligibility by presenting a Declaration of Intention issued by a federal court. The Declaration of Intention will be returned after the necessary information has been recorded.

Age Requirement. A person must be at least 18 years of age before making application for a teaching credential.

A. ACCEPTABLE CREDIT

1. All undergraduate credit and degrees must be earned through institutions accredited for general collegiate purposes by a regionally accrediting association or through South Carolina institutions which have programs approved for teacher education by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

2. Graduate degrees acceptable for certification purposes include academic or professional degrees in the field of education or in an academic area for which a corresponding teaching credential is authorized by the State Board of Education. All credit at the graduate level must be earned through the graduate school of an institution accredited for general collegiate purposes by a regional accrediting association and having a regular graduate division meeting regional association requirements, or through South Carolina institutions which have graduate programs approved for teacher education by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

3. All credits are computed by semester hours. (Three quarter hours are equivalent to two semester hours.)

4. A teacher shall not be allowed to receive credit for a course that is repeated unless this duplication has received approval by the Director of the Office of Teacher Education and Certification of the South Carolina Department of Education.

B. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1. South Carolina Teacher Education Programs

a. To be eligible for an instructional area teaching certificate, the applicant must:

(1) Complete a teacher education program approved for initial certification by the South Carolina State Board of Education, or an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

(2) Score at least the minimum qualifying score on the required examination.

(3) An applicant who has not earned a bachelor's degree and is seeking initial certification by completing an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the State Board of Education must obtain the required score on all parts of the State Board of Education basic skills examination designed for admittance into a teacher education program.

b. To be eligible for an instructional support area certificate, the applicant must:

(1) Complete a teacher education program approved by the South Carolina State Board of Education, or an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

(2) Score at least the minimum qualifying score on the required examination.

(3) An applicant who has not earned a bachelor's degree and is seeking initial certification by completing an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the State Board of Education must obtain the required score on all parts of the State Board of Education basic skills examination designed for admittance into a teacher education program.

2. Out-of-State Teacher Education Programs

a. To be eligible for a South Carolina instructional area certificate, the applicant must:

(1) Complete an out-of-state teacher education program accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or approved under the standards of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) by the State Board of Education of the state in which the institution offering the program is located or approved by that state's appropriate credentialing agency provided the institution is regionally accredited; OR complete an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

(2) Score the minimum qualifying score on the required area examination.

b. To be eligible for a South Carolina instructional support area certificate, the applicant must:

(1) Complete an out-of-state teacher education program accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) or approved under the standards of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) by the State Board of Education of the state in which the institution offering the program is located or approved by that state's appropriate credentialing agency provided the institution is regionally accredited; OR complete an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

(2) Score at least the minimum qualifying score on the required examination.

c. South Carolina certification will be awarded only in the recommended area on the application of the out-of-state applicant's NCATE or NASDTEC or state-approved teacher education program which most closely conforms to a corresponding South Carolina area of certification. Any additional areas of certification must be obtained through either an additional program of teacher education approved for initial certification or by completing the South Carolina State Board of Education requirements for acquiring additional areas of certification.

3. Approved Programs Completed Ten Years Before Application

The applicant who graduated from an approved teacher education program at least ten or more years before applying for an initial South Carolina professional teaching credential must:

a. Earn a minimum of twelve semester hours within the content of the specialized body of knowledge for the area or areas of certification sought or within specific methods of teaching that specialized body of knowledge of which six hours must have been earned within the last five years and meet all other requirements of the South Carolina State Board of Education in effect at the time application is made. (See Requirements for Certification.)

OR

b. Must hold or have held a valid teaching credential and have taught in another state for one or more years during the five years immediately preceding official application for a South Carolina credential.

4. Programs Other Than Those Designed for Teacher Preparation

a. Instructional Personnel. The applicant who graduated from a program not approved for teacher education in an instructional area must either:

(1) Meet all requirements of a teacher education program in the desired instructional area approved by NCATE or NASDTEC or the appropriate state credentialing agency.

OR

(2) Complete an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

b. Instructional Support Personnel. The applicant who graduated from a program not approved for teacher education and who desires certification in an instructional support area must either:

(1) Complete all requirements of an educational program for the desired instructional support area approved by NCATE or NASDTEC or the appropriate state credentialing agency.

(2) Complete an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. Professional education credit must be earned through an institution which has a teacher education program approved for initial certification.

c. Out-of-State Teacher Education Program Certification Areas. South Carolina certification will be awarded only in the recommended area of the out-of-state applicant's approved program which most closely conforms to the requirements for a corresponding South Carolina area of certification. All additional areas of certification must be obtained through either an additional program approved for initial certification or by completing the South Carolina State Board of Education requirements for acquiring additional areas of certification.

C. STUDENT TEACHING

All persons pursuing undergraduate or graduate programs leading to initial teacher certification must complete the student teaching requirement adopted by the State Board of Education for the level and area of certification sought. Persons pursuing certification through teacher education programs approved by the South Carolina State Board of Education must complete one semester of student teaching.

1. One semester of student teaching is defined as not fewer than 60 full school days within an academic semester as utilized by the individual institution for other collegiate purposes. For sound educational purposes, specific permission may be granted to a particular institution by the State Board of Education to have a minimum of 60 full days within the senior year.

2. Practicum. Any practicum that may be required for instructional support areas such as speech correction, school psychologists, social workers, guidance counselors, media specialists, attendance supervisors, and other instructional support areas shall not be used to fulfill the student teaching or practicum requirements in another certification area.

D. REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS

All applicants for a teaching certificate must take the appropriate examination and score the minimum qualifying score acceptable for certification in each area as determined by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

1. South Carolina Teaching Area Examinations and Minimum Scores

The following South Carolina Teaching Area Examinations and minimum scores will be required for certification as indicated.

Area of Certification	Teaching Area Examination	Required Score
Latin	Latin	70
German	German	100
Earth Science	Earth Science	83
Psychology	Psychology	58
Distributive Education	Marketing and Distributive Education	68
Speech and Drama	Speech and Drama	*
Health	Health Education	87
Learning Disabilities	Special Education - Learning Disabled	63
Emotionally Handicapped	Special Education - Emotionally Handicapped	70
Orthopedically Handicapped	Special Education - Orthopedically Handicapped	64
Hearing Handicapped	Special Education - Hearing Handicapped	66
Visually Handicapped	Special Education - Visually Handicapped	68
Trades and Industries (29 specific fields)	Trades and Industries	*

* **Tests not available. Persons meeting all other requirements for certification will be issued conditional certification until such time as tests are available.**

2. **National Teacher Area Examinations and Minimum Scores**

A score on the Teaching Area Examination of the National Teacher Examinations is required for certification in those areas for which an appropriate teaching area examination exists and has been validated for use in South Carolina. Minimum required scores on the appropriate Teaching Area Examinations are as follows:

Area of Certification	Teaching Area Examination	Required Score
Accounting and Related Business Administration	Business Education	540
Elementary School Principal and Supervisor	Educational Administration and Supervision	590
Secondary School Principal and Supervisor	Educational Administration and Supervision	590
School Superintendent	Educational Administration and Supervision	590
Vocational Center Director	Educational Administration and Supervision	590
Advanced Fine Arts		
Art	Art Education	500
Music	Music Education	480
Agriculture	Agriculture	390
Agricultural Mechanics	Agriculture	390
Animal Science	Agriculture	390
Art	Art Education	500
Biology	Biology and General Science	590
Chemistry	Chemistry, Physics and General Science	570
Early Childhood Education	Early Childhood Education	520
Educable Mentally Handicapped	Education of the Mentally Retarded	590
Economics	Social Studies	550
Elementary Education	Education in the Elementary School	600
English	English, Language and Literature	500
Environmental Science	Agriculture	390
Forestry	Agriculture	390
French	French	610
General Science	Biology and General Science	590
	or	
	Chemistry, Physics and General Science	570
Geography	Social Studies	550
Government	Social Studies	550
Guidance		
Elementary Guidance	Guidance Counselor	550
Associate Guidance	Guidance Counselor	550
Secondary Guidance	Guidance Counselor	550
Advanced Guidance Secondary	Guidance Counselor	550
History	Social Studies	550
Home Economics	Home Economics Education	540
Horticulture	Agriculture	390
Industrial Arts	Industrial Arts Education	570

National Teacher Area Examinations and minimum scores (continued)

Area of Certification	Teaching Area Examination	Required Score
Language Arts - Middle School	English, Language and Literature	500
Mathematics (Including Middle School)	Mathematics	590
Media Communication Specialist	Media Specialist, Library and Audio-Visual Services	640
Media Specialist/Library Science	Media Specialist, Library and Audio-Visual Services	640
Music Education - Choral	Music Education	480
Music Education - Instrumental	Music Education	480
Music Education - Piano	Music Education	480
Music Education - Violin	Music Education	480
Music Education - Voice	Music Education	480
Office Occupations	Business Education	540
Physical Education	Physical Education	590
Physics	Chemistry, Physics and General Science	570
Reading		
Reading Teacher	Introduction to the Teaching of Reading	500
Reading Consultant	Introduction to the Teaching of Reading	500
Reading Coordinator or Director	Introduction to the Teaching of Reading	500
Reading Clinician	Introduction to the Teaching of Reading	500
Science (Including Middle School)	Biology and General Science or Chemistry, Physics and General Science	590 570
Secretarial Science	Business Education	540
Social Studies (Including Middle School)	Social Studies	550
Sociology	Social Studies	550
Spanish	Spanish	590
Speech Correctionist	Speech-Language Pathology	510
Trainable Mentally Handicapped	Education of the Mentally Retarded	590

3. **Conditional Certification Procedures For Those Areas For Which No Teaching Area Examination Exists**

Persons seeking certification who meet all requirements for certification in effect on the date of receipt of all required documentation other than a certification test score shall be issued a Conditional Certificate valid for one year. This Conditional Certificate shall be renewable annually upon written request from the teacher until the State Board of Education adopts

examinations which have been validated for certification purposes with minimum qualifying scores. Upon the adoption by the State Board of Education of the validated examinations and minimum qualifying scores, teachers holding the Conditional Certificates will be required to take the designated area examinations and present the minimum qualifying score to be issued a Professional Certificate.

The total number of years an individual holds the Conditional Certificate as outlined above will be deducted from the normal five-year life of the Professional Certificate at the time of issue.

E. VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

The Office of Teacher Education and Certification of the State Department of Education may verify the eligibility of an applicant for certification by ascertaining:

1. Whether the program completed was the program approved for the degree granting institution;

OR

2. Whether the applicant has met an approved program of specific course requirements adopted by the State Board of Education.

III. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

A. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

The applicant must submit or have submitted to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification the following documentation:

1. Application Form: A completed application on a State Department of Education form. This form must be signed by the applicant and designated college official.

2. College Transcripts: A complete and official transcript(s). Each transcript must bear the official seal of the institution, the signature of the designated official, the type of degree earned, if any, and the date awarded. Only official transcripts transmitted directly to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification by the college will be accepted for certification purposes.

3. Area Examinations Scores: The required teaching area examination score corresponding to each area for which certification is sought. Only official scores transmitted directly to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification from the appropriate testing authority will be accepted.

4. Experience Verification: Appropriate verification of previous teaching experience when such experience is a requirement for an area of certification.

5. Application and Evaluation Fee: A nonrefundable fee for the evaluation and processing of each application.

B. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CREDENTIAL

The effective date of the credential shall be based upon the date of receipt of all required documentation of eligibility for the desired credential in the Office of Teacher Education and Certification. An incomplete application will be maintained for a period of six months.

1. If the applicant becomes eligible for an initial credential or a revised class of credential between September 15 and April 30, the credential will be valid from:

   a. The date upon which the teacher completed requirements for the credential provided the application is filed in the Office of Teacher Education and Certification within 45 calendar days after the date on which the teacher completed existing requirements;

   OR

   b. The date of receipt of completed application if such date is later than 45 calendar days after the date on which the teacher completed existing requirements.

2. If the applicant becomes eligible for an initial credential or a revised class of credential between May 1 and September 14, the credential will be valid from:

   a. July 1 of the calendar year in which the teacher completed existing requirements provided the application is filed in the Office of Teacher Education and Certification on or before October 14;

   OR

   b. The date of receipt of the completed application if such date is after October 14.

IV. CREDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION

The classification of a teaching credential is determined by the applicant's level of formal education and the extent to which that education conforms to South Carolina certification regulations.

A. REQUIREMENTS FOR CREDENTIAL ADVANCEMENT

To advance a credential from one classification to another, the applicant must provide to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification the following:

1. A written request to have the certificate advanced.

2. The required documentation of having met State Board of Education requirements for certificate advancement.

3. The required fee for advancement of the certificate.

B. TYPES AND LEVELS OF CREDENTIAL CLASSIFICATION

1. Class I--Advanced Professional. An applicant shall have an earned Doctorate and shall meet requirements for an initial area of certification as adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Eduction.

2. Class I--Specialist Professional. An applicant shall have a Master's degree plus 30 semester hours of graduate credit in a planned program approved by the State Board of Education. A minimum of 60 semester hours total is required. The applicant must also meet the requirements for an initial area of certification as adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education. (See R43-62.2, M. Class I-S: Specialist)

3. Class I--Professional. An applicant shall have a Master's degree and shall meet requirements for an initial area of certification as adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

4. Class II--Professional. An applicant shall have a Bachelor's degree plus 18 semester hours of graduate credit and shall meet requirements for an initial area of certification as adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

5. Class III--Professional. An applicant shall have a Bachelor's degree and shall meet requirements for an initial area of certification as adopted by the South Carolina State Board of Education.

6. Warrant Certificates. The State Board of Education discontinued the issuance of warrant certificates in November, 1976.

   a. To maintain a warrant credential, an individual must earn an appropriate six semester hours or the equivalent every five years as provided in Renewal Requirements.

   b. To improve the warrant credential to a professional certificate, an individual must remove all certification shortages (teaching area examination and/or course requirements) by meeting current certification requirements.

c. Additional areas of certification may be added to a Warrant credential by meeting requirements for acquiring additional areas of certification.

d. Any warrant certificate issued in past years will be maintained at the class level at which the credential was issued.

7. Temporary Certificate. A Temporary Certificate may be issued to an applicant who has not fully met certification requirements of the State Board of Education. Temporary Certificates are issued for a period of one year. Requirements for Temporary Certificates are as follows:

a. General Category. Temporary Certificates will be issued at the appropriate classification level if the following conditions are met:

(1) Academic Preparation.

(a) Appropriate degree is held including subject matter courses which meet certification requirements for the area in which certification is sought.

(b) At least six semester hours of Directed Teaching are provided.

(2) College Recommendation. Recommendation of college dean or head of department regarding approved programs is provided.

(3) Teaching Area Examination. The required score on the appropriate teaching Area Examination is submitted.

(4) Renewal Requirements. The temporary certificate may be renewed twice on a year-to-year basis upon presentation of six semester hours of credit in area or areas of deficiency until all shortages have been removed.

b. Out-of-State Certified Candidates. Temporary certificates will be issued to out-of-state applicants who hold a valid, standard certificate from another state. This credential will entitle the holder to an equivalent South Carolina credential.

(1) Renewal Requirements. The Temporary Certificate may be renewed twice on a year-to-year basis upon submission of the minimum qualifying score on the appropriate teaching area exam and at least six semester hours of credit toward the removal of any shortages in academic and professional requirements for the area in which certification is sought.

(2) Advancement from Temporary to Professional Certification. For applicants who hold a teaching credential from out of state to be fully certified with a professional South Carolina certificate, all requirements for certification must be met.

c. Temporary Certificates for School Psychologists. To serve the required internship for certification as a School Psychologist I or II under the supervision of a certified School Psychologist II or III and to serve the required internship for School Psychologist III under supervision of a certified School Psychologist III, a temporary certificate may be granted for one year provided the following requirements are met:

(1) All required coursework for the level of training sought has been completed;

OR

The internship is taken through a State Board of Education approved training program, when written documentation is provided the Office of Teacher Education and Certification that the individual requesting a temporary certificate is enrolled in a school psychologist training program, and working toward full certification for the level of certificate sought.

(2) A temporary certificate issued under the approved program requirements, which enables an applicant to hold temporary certification to complete the required internship, may be renewed once based upon written documentation from the director of the school psychology program that the applicant is a full-time student in the program during the second year of the renewed certificate.

8. Graded Certificates

The State Board of Education discontinued the issuance of Graded Certificates on July 1, 1971. The Professional Certificate issued since that date is comparable to the former Grade A certificate. To qualify for the Professional Certificate, a person who currently holds a Grade B, C, or D certificate may:

A. Present the minimum required score currently in effect on the specific teaching area examination appropriate to the individual's initial area of certification.

OR

B. Add an additional area of certification to the initial graded certificate by meeting all requirements of the State Board of Education for an additional area that includes at least a minimum qualifying score on a teaching area examination, AND, verification of at least three years of teaching experience in that additional area of certification.

9. Out-of-Field Permits

Any person holding a valid South Carolina teaching credential and who is assigned duties in an area for which that person is not properly certified

may be eligible for a permit to teach out of field. Out-of-field permits are to be issued only at the request of the employing school district. The employing district shall apply for a permit no later than 30 days after the date of assignment. Out-of-field permits are issued only for the academic year in which they are requested and expire on June 30. Regulations governing effective dates of out-of-field permits shall coincide with those for initial, revised, and renewed certificates. A person shall have a valid South Carolina teaching credential and meet the appropriate requirements below to be eligible for an initial out-of-field permit:

	Certification Area	Out-of-Field Requirement
a.	Early Childhood Education Elementary Education Programs for the Handicapped Guidance Library Science	a. Six semester hours of credit in the area of special preparation for which the permit is requested.
b.	Middle School Certification Areas - Grades 5-8	b. Twelve semester hours of credit in the subject area for which the permit is requested
c.	Instructional Certification Areas (Secondary) (K-12)	c. Twelve semester hours of credit in the subject area for which the permit is requested.
d.	Central office personnel who have responsibilities for supervising instructional programs and pupil services and who are required by the Defined Minimum Program to be certified. These include: Superintendents Assistant Deputy Superintendents Assistant Associate Superintendents Administrative Assistants Directors Supervisors Coordinators Consultants	d. Twelve semester hours of credit toward certification in the area of administration or supervision for which the permit is requested.
e.	Elementary and Secondary Principals	e. Twelve semester hours toward full certification.
f.	Vocational Center Director	f. Twelve semester hours toward full certification.

g. Six additional hours of college transcript credit shall be earned toward full certification in the area for which the permit is issued prior to another permit being issued in this same area.

V. ADDITIONAL AREAS OF CERTIFICATION

Additional areas of certification may be added to a valid professional South Carolina teaching credential. To add an additional area, an applicant must:

A. Complete an additional teacher education program approved for initial certification under the standards adopted by the State Board of Education; or an approved program of specific course requirements for adding the desired area of certification as adopted by the State Board of Education.

B. Score at least the minimum qualifying score on the required teaching area examination.

C. Submit a written request and all required documentation to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification for the additional area of certification.

D. Pay the required fee for issuance of each additional area of certification.

VI. RENEWAL OF CREDENTIALS

A. The professional teaching credential is valid for five years and expires at the end of that period.

1. The total number of years an individual holds any type of temporary credential will be deducted from the normal five-year life of the Professional Certificate at the time of issue. Renewal requirements in effect for the Professional Certificate shall be applicable to temporary credentials extending for five or more years.

2. To renew a professional teaching credential, an applicant shall:

a. Submit a written request to have the credential renewed and the required fee for credential renewal to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification.

b. Submit documentation of having met State Board of Education requirements for certificate renewal.

(1) Six (6) semester hours or the equivalent must be earned during the life of the credential through one of the following:

(a) Six semester hours of appropriate college/university transcript credit;

(b) 120 points with an approved district certificate renewal plan;

(c) Any combination of transcript credit and points earned through a district certificate renewal plan;

OR

(d) A maximum of three hours of State Department of Education approved in-service credit in combination with transcript credit or certificate renewal points.

(2) Credit earned through college courses and/or State Department of Education approved in-service courses, and/or district certificate renewal points shall be relevant to the area of recertification as follows:

(a) A minimum of fifty percent of the credit earned for certificate renewal shall be earned within the content of the specialized body of knowledge for the area or areas of certification held by the individual or within methods of teaching that specialized body of knowledge. (College/university credit may be graduate or undergraduate.)

(b) A maximum of fifty percent of the credit earned for certificate renewal may be earned within courses or activities pertaining to the nature of student learning or the nature of teaching as a profession. (College/university credit may be graduate or undergraduate.)

(3) Any graduate or undergraduate credit earned in science and/or mathematics which can be used to meet specific content requirements for certification in science and/or mathematics at the middle school or secondary level may also be applied toward satisfying renewal requirements in the category of specific content and methods for any basic teaching certificate.

(4) College/university renewal credit earned for certification renewal purposes shall:

(a) Be earned through a regionally accredited college or university.

(b) Be submitted by the credit granting institution directly to the Office of Teacher Education and Certification at the State Department of Education on an official transcript.

(c) Be computed by semester hours.

(5) District certificate renewal point system credit shall:

(a) Be earned within a district certificate renewal point plan which was approved under State Board of Education criteria before the credit was earned.

(b) Be awarded at the maximum rate of one (1) point for one hour of direct individual participation and twenty (20) points shall be considered the equivalent of one (1) semester hour of transcript credit for the purposes of computing certificate renewal.

(c) Be reciprocal from one South Carolina State Board of Education approved district renewal plan to another.

(6) State Department of Education approved certificate renewal course credit shall:

(a) Be earned within a planned course of instruction approved for renewal under State Board of Education criteria before the credit was earned.

(b) Be limited to a maximum of three certificate renewal hours during the five (5) year lifetime of a certificate.

(c) Be awarded on the basis of one certificate renewal hour of credit for each fifteen (15) hours of direct individual participation.

B. Credit will not be allowed for a renewal activity that is repeated unless the activity has received prior approval in writing from the Director of the Office of Teacher Education and Certification.

C. Continuing Education Units (CEU's) shall not be used for initial certification or credential renewal.

D. A credential which has been expired for less than five years may be extended for one year by the Office of Teacher Education and Certification based on a written request by the individual.

E. A credential which has been expired for five years or more may be renewed when the applicant has completed a minimum of six hours of transcript credit which must be earned within content of the specialized body of knowledge or within methods of teaching that specialized body of knowledge for an area of certification included on the credential being renewed.

F. Regulations governing effective dates of renewed certificates shall be the same as those for initial and revised certificates.

VII. FOREIGN CREDENTIALS

An applicant who has studied outside the United States shall submit academic credentials, (either the original or a legible reproduction) together with an accurate English translation. An applicant with foreign credentials seeking certification shall follow the standard application procedure and shall meet all certification requirements.

VIII. PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

The State Department of Education shall maintain records indicating the work experience for which persons are entitled.

A. COMPUTING EXPERIENCE FOR TEACHERS

In computing experience credit, one of the following conditions must be satisfied:

1. Requirements for one year of experience

   a. The teacher shall have been employed in a full-time teaching position for at least 140 days of full-time employment.

   b. The teacher shall have been employed at least nine months in a full-time teaching position normally filled on a twelve-month basis.

2. Requirements for One-Half Year Experience

   a. The teacher shall have been employed in a regular teaching position at least 70 days of full-time employment.

   b. The teacher shall have been employed in a regular teaching position on a part-time basis and have worked at least half-time for 140 days of the school year.

   c. The teacher shall have been employed at least four and one-half months in a full-time teaching position normally filled on a twelve-month basis.

3. Summer school teaching experience may be used toward satisfying the 140 teaching days' requirement at the rate of two days of summer school for each regular school day, not to exceed twenty regular school days in any year; summer school days are to be added to the accrued teaching days of the preceding school year.

4. Two half-years of experience may be combined to give one full year of experience.

5. No more than one year of experience may be earned during any twelve-month period.

6. Nothing less than one-half year will be credited.

B. TEACHING EXPERIENCE ACCEPTABLE FOR CREDIT

1. Teaching in public elementary and/or secondary schools in the United States and its territories.

2. Teaching in private and/or parochial elementary and/or secondary schools.

3. Teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools in foreign countries.

4. Teaching in a professional education position in a regionally accredited institution of higher education or one that has been admitted to candidacy for receiving such accreditation.

5. Full-time teaching in the Peace Corps.

6. Full-time professional teaching experience in Speech and Hearing Centers.

C. OTHER EXPERIENCE ACCEPTABLE FOR CREDIT

1. Serving in a professional education position in a public elementary and/or secondary school system or in a private and/or parochial elementary and/or secondary school.

2. Serving in a professional education position in a regionally accredited institution of higher education or one that has been admitted to candidacy for receiving accreditation.

3. Serving in a professional education position in a city, county, or state educational system, United States Office of Education or Regional Office of United States Office of Education.

4. Full-time graduate study which began on or after June 12, 1973. An applicant for teaching credit for full time spent in graduate school must present evidence of having accumulated at least one year of teaching experience prior to entering the graduate study.

   a. "Graduate school study" shall mean full-time study in an accredited institution of higher learning in an academic area or professional education acceptable for teacher certification purposes.

   b. "Full-time graduate study" shall mean a minimum academic load of nine semester hours or its equivalent per semester during the academic year.

D. AGENCY EMPLOYMENT ACCEPTABLE FOR CREDIT

1. Experience may be earned in a state-supported organization or institution which provides educational services for a school age or adult population. Applicant must provide an official description from the employing agency describing the professional duties for which the applicant wishes to receive experience credit; these duties must have been in teaching, educational administration, curriculum development, teacher training, personnel administration, educational research, or other professional duties connected with the delivery of educational services.

2. Experience credit may be earned as a psychologist or counselor in a mental health or a mental retardation program provided the experience was with school age persons.

3. Employment must meet time requirements for full-time or half-time employment as stated in Crediting Experience regulations.

E. MILITARY SERVICE

Experience credit may be granted for up to five years of service in the Armed Forces provided the applicant held a valid South Carolina or out-of-state teaching credential prior to or during the period of military service.

IX. DENIAL, REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, AND INVALIDATION OF CREDENTIALS

A. DENIAL, REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF CREDENTIALS

The State Board of Education has the legal authority to deny, revoke, or suspend a teaching credential for the following causes:

1. Obtaining or attempting to obtain such certificate by fraudulent means or through misrepresentation of material facts.

2. Immoral or unprofessional conduct.

3. Evident unfitness for teaching as manifested by persistent neglect of duty, willful violation of rules and regulations of district board of trustees, drunkenness, violation of the law of this state or the United States, gross immorality, any cause involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, illegal use, sale or possession of drugs or narcotics.

4. Failing to comply with the provisions of a contract without the written consent of the local school board.

B. INVALIDATION OF CREDENTIALS

If any testing company invalidates a test score, the State Board of Education shall accept that determination and, if a teaching certificate has been issued based upon the invalid score, shall automatically invalidate that certificate effective the date of receipt of notification of the score invalidity by the Office of Teacher Education and Certification.